

ALLEN BIAGGI, *Administrator*

(775) 687-4670

Administration
Facsimile 687-5856

Water Quality Planning
Water Pollution Control
Facsimile 687-4684

Mining Regulations & Reclamation
Facsimile 684-5259

State of Nevada
KENNY C. GUINN
Governor



R. MICHAEL TURNIPSEED, *Director*

Air Pollution Control
Air Quality Planning
Facsimile 687-6396

Waste Management
Federal Facilities

Corrective Actions
Facsimile 687-8335

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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138
Carson City, Nevada 89706

NDEP Press Release

April 28, 2004

Contact: Colleen Cripps (775) 687-9346 or Jean Paul Huys (775) 687-9355

The Bureau of Air Quality Planning will display Near-Time Ambient Air Monitoring Data for Pahrump, NV on the Internet

The Bureau of Air Quality Planning (BAQP) has been monitoring the ambient air quality in the Town of Pahrump since January 2001. Citizen complaints in the late 90's led to the installation of an ambient air monitor near the Municipal Pool in the downtown area. Since last year, BAQP expanded the monitoring network in the Pahrump Valley to four sites: the Municipal Pool site downtown, the Willow Creek Golf Course, the "Our Lady of the Valley Roman Catholic Church" on Gamebird and a background site on Linda Street.

Over the last couple of years, BAQP received several requests, from local elected officials and citizens of Pahrump, to post the monitoring data on the internet in real time. The goal is to display the monitoring data from all four monitoring sites on the internet. The first phase of the project was completed in late April. The data from the Municipal Pool became available on the internet on April 28. The golf course, church and Linda sites will be added later in May.

The ambient air monitoring data is posted on the internet in near-real time: the data is downloaded from the monitor twice a day (9:00 am and 3:00 pm) and uploaded to the internet. The air quality data is color-coded according to EPA's Air Quality Index (AQI). This index is a yardstick for air quality, the higher the AQI value, the greater the level of air pollution and the greater the health danger. The index ranges from 0 – 500. The scale is subdivided into six categories, ranging from **good** to **hazardous**.

The website to view the data is <http://ndep.nv.gov/baqp/whatsnew.html>

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